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What is claimed is:

- 10 1. An identifying coding apparatus employing modulated reflectance technology comprising:
 - a base station emitting a RF signal;
 - a tag, located remotely from said base station, containing at least one antenna and a predetermined network of other passive circuit components
 - 15 for receiving said RF signal and reflecting back to said base station a modulated signal indicative of characteristics related to said tag.
2. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 1, wherein said tag is configured as a wrist strap to be worn by a user.
- 20 3. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 1, wherein said tag is configured as a label to be applied to an item of manufacture.
4. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 3, wherein said label is situated inside a pneumatic tire, and contains a pressure sensor, a
- 25 temperature sensor and a tire tread wear sensor.
5. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 1, wherein said at least one antenna and said predetermined other passive components
- 30 are printed onto said tag.
6. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 5, wherein said tag is configured as a wrist strap to be worn by a user.
- 35 7. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 5, wherein

5 said tag is configured as a label to be applied to an item of manufacture.

8. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 5, wherein said label is situated inside a pneumatic tire, and contains a pressure sensor, a temperature sensor and a tire tread wear sensor.

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9. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 1, wherein said reflected modulated signal is used to determine location of said tag.

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10. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 1, wherein said reflected modulated signal is used to identify an entity to which said tag is associated.

11. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 1, further comprising means for disabling operation of said tag.

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12. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 11, wherein said means for disabling comprises a fusible link on said tag that opens upon receipt by said tag of a particular RF signal from said base station.

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13. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 11, wherein said means for disabling comprises breaking apart said tag.

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14. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 1, further comprising a tab that when torn off said tag affects said modulated reflected signal in such a way as to indicate, for example, distress of a user of said tag.

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15. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 1, wherein said modulated reflected signal contains a binary code that identifies the particular user of the tag.

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16. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 15, wherein said binary code results from said at least one antenna comprising two antennas, a first of said two antennas being out of phase with a second of said two antennas.

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17. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 15, wherein said binary code results from time-delay circuits comprising combinations of inductances and capacitances.

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18. The identifying coding apparatus as described in Claim 15, wherein said binary code results from varying impedances connected to said at least one antenna.

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